

Appl. No.: 10/713,241  
Amdt. Dated: July 15, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of: May 4, 2004

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph that starts on Page 12, Line 16 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

In Figs. 9 and 10 are shown scanning electron micro-graphs of photonic band-gap crystal waveguides made using an assembly of hollow rods arranged about a central tube and enclosed by an outer tube. The rods have respective circular outside and interior cross sections. More specifically, Fig. 10 depicts a micro-graph of a photonic band-gap crystal fiber that includes a defect with a plurality of protrusions. In this exemplary embodiment the protrusions are facing or are directed towards the center of the fiber core.